

Message Text

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14

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SCI-06 SCEM-02 TRSE-00 COME-00

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TECH ENRG JA

SUBJ: US-JAPAN AGREEMENT ON ENERGY R&D

REF: TOKYO 12209

SUMMARY: GOJ HAS NOT COMPLETED ITS INTERMINISTERIAL REVIEW OF PROPOSED ENERGY R&D AGREEMENT. FORMAL RESPONSE TO US EXPECTED IN NEAR FUTURE. GOJ ONE PAGE SUMMARIES ON PROPOSED AREAS OF R&D COOPERATION NOT COMPLETED. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH SUBMIT TWO OR THREE SUMMARIES TO GOJ IN ADVANCE OF EXCHANGE IN ATTEMPT TO EXPEDITE GOJ'S RESPONSE. END SUMMARY.

1. ECON/COUNS CALLED ON KATAKURA, ACTING HEAD OF FONOFF'S INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES DIV (PENDING ARRIVAL OF SUCCESSOR TO OYAKE), OCT 2 TO INQUIRE RE STATUS GOJ'S CONSIDERATION OF US PROPOSALS ON ENERGY R&D AGREEMENT.

2. IN RESPONSE, KATAKURA MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:
(A) FONOFF HAS CARRIED OUT DISCUSSIONS WITH INTERESTED GOJ AGENCIES, ESPECIALLY MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI) AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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AGENCH (STA). WHILE ALL AGENCIES CONCERNED STRONGLY

AGREE THAT ENERGY R&D AGREEMENT SHOULD NOT MEET SAME FATE

ASPROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, CONSENSUS HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED ON GOJ RESPONSE. FONOFF HOPES TO ACHIEVE CONSENSUS AND MAKE FORMAL RESPONSE, WHICH WILL INCLUDE SUGGESTIONS FOR SOME AMENDMENTS TO US DRAFT, IN NEAR FUTURE.

(B) RE ARTICLE IV, FONOFF VIEWS ENERGY AGREEMENT TO CONSIST OF THREE STAGES, I.E. OVERALL UMBRELLA AGREEMENT, IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND TECHNICAL DETAILS. FONOFF STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT IT SHOULD HANDLE FIRST TWO STAGES AND LEAVE ONLY TECHNICAL DETAILS STAGE TO APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL AGENCIES. MITI APPARENTLY UNWILLING THUS FAR TO AGREE.

(C) RE ARTICLE V, FONOFF BELIEVES IT SHOULD BE POINT OF COORDINATION. MITI APPARENTLY NOT WILLING THUS FAR TO CONCEDE THAT PREROGATIVE TO FONOFF.

3. IN RESPONSE TO ECON/COUNS' QUESTION RE POSSIBLE TIMING FOR EXCHANGE OF ONE PAGE SUMMARIES ON ITEMS (A) THROUGH (M), ARTICLE III, FONOFF INDICATED PROGRESS IN STA BUT SOME DELAYS IN MITI. IN RESPONSE TO SUGGESTION THAT US MIGHT FIRST PROVIDE SUMMARIES FOR REVIEW BY GOJ TO HELP LATTER IN PREPARING RESPONSE, ECON/COUNS REPLIED THAT EXCHANGE SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT SAME TIME AND ADDED CONCERN THAT THIS ISSUE NOW THREATENING FURTHER DELAY IN CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT. KATAKURA DECLINED SUGGESTION THAT WE DROP PROPOSED EXCHANGE AS PREREQUISITE TO SIGNING AGREEMENT BUT PROMISED TO MAKE BEST EFFORTS TO EXPEDITE GOJ PREPARATION OF ITS SUMMARIES.

4. DEPARMTNE MAY WISH TO CONSIDER PASSING TWO OR THREE OF THE SUMMARIES TO GOJ BEFORE MAKING EXCHANGE OF OTHER ITEMS SO AS TO GIVE GOJ IDEA OF FORMAT AND CONTENT AND TO HELP MOVE GOJ ALONG IN ITS CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED AGREEMENT. WE ASSUME SUCH SUMMARIES WOULD CONSIST OF DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BUT WOULD NOT INCLUDE TECHNICAL DATA.

5. ECON/COUNS NOTED THAT SINCE LOVE VISIT NOW SCHEDULED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ONE MONTH LATER THAN ORIGINALLY PROPOSED WE HOPED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO CONCLUDE AGREEMENT BEFORE HIS VISIT. KATAKURA AGREED PROSPECTS IMPROVED BUT UNABLE MAKE ANY COMMITMENT.
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